

SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

Luke 8:16-21

Ice Breaker: Share highs and lows from this last week.

Ice Breaker: What is your favorite thing to listen to (artist, podcast, preacher, radio show, etc.)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. **Read Luke 8:16-21:** What is the setting of this passage? How or in what way does this passage follow from the parable of the sower and the soils? How do they connect?
2. Verse 16-17 use the metaphor of a lamp. What is the light in this passage and why would we not want to cover it? What has been hidden and what is Jesus bringing to light?
3. The theme of hearing is central in Luke 8:4-21. Find all of the references to hearing. What stands out to you having done that?
4. Verse 18 is a command to "Take care" of how we are hearing. What does it mean to take care of how we hear? What practical things can we do to hear the Word carefully? What does this look like and how can we increase our "success" at hearing God's word faithfully?
5. What does it look like to hear the Word poorly or be to bad-hearers of the word? What keeps us from hearing the Word faithfully (practical distractions, heart postures, excuses, etc.)?
6. There is a blessing and a warning at the end verse 18. What are they? What are the two "has" referring to in this passage?
7. How might this blessing be an encouragement to you? Does this change the way you view Sunday morning or other times you hear the Word? In what ways?
8. Are you in need of Jesus' warning in verse 18? How might his warning be convicting to you? How will you respond?
9. **Re-read Luke 8:19-21:** What is the main point of what Jesus is talking about? Is this story about Jesus' mother and brothers? If not, what is the point of Jesus using the "mother" and "brother" language in verse 21?
10. Why is it such good news that Jesus welcomes us into his family? What does this mean for how we live our lives today?
11. How might you change your habits this week to be ready to receive and hear God's word next week, no matter who is preaching, what is happening in the world, or what is happening later that day? How might your small group encourage and help one another prepare to hear God's word and to do God's word?